

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO

April 4, 2001

EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM

MEMO NO. 01-05

TO: All Department Heads and Agency Heads

SUBJECT: Strikes by HSTA and UHPA

Despite our best efforts, it now appears that both the UH faculty and the teachers will commence their respective strike actions on April 5, 2001. While I am always hopeful we can arrive at a last minute settlement, prudence dictates that we should prepare for the worst.

The Department of Education has prepared their strike plan, and they will be responsible for keeping parents informed of school closures and openings and insuring health and safety in those schools that remain open.

All department heads are encouraged to take such measures as are appropriate to assist employees in dealing with the inevitable disruptions that occur during a strike. Obviously, child care will be of utmost concern. I encourage you to be flexible in supporting your employees and their needs in such matters as liberal leave, adjustments to working hours and tolerance for children present in the work place. Of course, we must balance this with the operational needs of the agency and the safety of the children.

Additional strike information is available on the following websites:

Governor's/State: http://gov.state.hi.us/hawaiistrike/index.htm

<u>DOE</u>: http://doe.k12.hi.us/ <u>UH</u>: http://www.hawaii.edu

Finally, emotions can run high during a strike. Nevertheless, we must remember these are fellow public employees and the teachers of our children. All of us should be professional in our dealings with the strikers, remaining courteous, avoiding confrontation and respecting their right to strike.